



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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Your Reference: MJB07514GB
Application No: GB 0321709.8

22 January 2004

Dear Sirs

Patents Act 1977: Search Report under Section 17

I enclose two copies of my search report and two copies of the citation.

Although your application qualified for combined search and examination, I am not issuing an examination report at this stage. So far I have no objections to the application but I cannot complete my investigations until at least three months after the application has been published. The reason for this delay is to give anyone interested in the application a chance to make observations on the patentability of your invention, and to permit the search to be updated.

This letter does not require a response from you and I will write again when I send you my examination report.

Publication

I estimate that, provided you have met all the formal requirements, preparations for publication of your application will be completed soon after **24 February 2004**. At this time you will receive a letter confirming the exact date when the preparations for publication will be completed. This letter will also tell you the publication number and date of publication of your application.

†Use of E-mail: Please note that e-mail should be used for correspondence only.



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Withdrawal/amendment

If you wish to withdraw your application before it is published you must do so before the preparations for publication are complete. **WARNING** - after preparations for publication are complete it will NOT be possible to withdraw your application from publication.

If you wish to file amended claims for inclusion with the published application you must do so before the preparations for publication are completed. If you write to the Office less than 3 weeks before 24 February 2004 please mark your letter prominently:

"URGENT - PUBLICATION IMMINENT".

Yours faithfully

John Donaldson
Examiner

Important information about combined search and examination

- (a) You may file voluntary amendments to your application at any time until the date when I issue my first examination report, which will be about three months after the application has been published. You will have a further opportunity to file voluntary amendments when you reply to the examination report.
- (b) About three months after publication I will bring the original search up to date and reconsider your application in the light of any new citations, voluntary amendments and observations on patentability and if necessary raise with you any resulting objections. If on the other hand I am satisfied at this time that the requirements of the Act have been met, I will issue a report to that effect. However, in this last case there is a possibility that I may not have access to all the patent applications published after the priority date of your invention and of possible relevance to your application. If this is the case I would have to complete the search after grant and if necessary raise any new found novelty objection then.



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Application No: GB 0321709.8
Claims searched: 1 to 18

Examiner: John Donaldson
Date of search: 21 January 2004

Patents Act 1977 : Search Report under Section 17

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Relevant to claims	Identity of document and passage or figure of particular relevance
A	-	GB 2337346 A (LSI LOGIC), see abstract

Categories:

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.

Field of Search:

Search of GB, EP, WO & US patent documents classified in the following areas of the UKC^w:

G4A

Worldwide search of patent documents classified in the following areas of the IPC⁷ :

G06F

The following online and other databases have been used in the preparation of this search report :

WPI, EPODOC, JAPIO